

**We Claim:**

1. A heat sterilized blood processing system comprising  
a container,  
flexible transfer tubing extending from and  
5 establishing fluid flow communication with the container,  
an air reservoir coupled in-line with the  
flexible transfer tubing, and  
the flexible transfer tubing including an air  
tube extending a certain distance into the air reservoir to  
10 provide an incremental air volume for the flexible transfer  
tubing so that collapse of the flexible transfer tubing is  
prevented during heat sterilization.
2. A heat sterilized blood processing system  
according to claim 1  
15 and further including an in-line filter carried  
by the flexible transfer tubing between the air reservoir  
and the container.